Secrets. H-27—100,000—27-4-58.

Food and
Agriculture **(195 /) Department.**

No. **SERIES.**

G.O. No.

259.
259

14.12.1957.

Dated 14-12-1957

[Despatch Abstract.]

Rationing — Abolition in Rural areas — Opening of fair price shops and grain shops and supply of foodgrains to essential services — Further instructions — Issued.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
ABSTRACT.-

Rationing - Abolition in Rural areas - Opening of fair price shops and grain shops and supply of foodgrains to essential services - Further instructions - issued.

Food and Agriculture Department.

G.O.Ms.No.259. Dated 14th Feb. 1951.
Read the following:-

1. G.O.Ms.No.126, Food and Agriculture, dated 24.1.51.
2. From the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) ref.No. 11780/UIV-51-3, dated 23.1.51.
3. From the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) Ref.No.11780/ 4-51-4, dated 23.1.51.
4. From the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) Ref.No. 11780 U4/51-2, dated 23.1.51.
5. From the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) Ref.No. 11780 U4/51-11, dated 9.2.51.

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O R D E R:

In continuation of the G.O. cited the Government issue the following further instructions in regard to the opening of grainshops and fair price shops and in regard to the supply of foodgrains to "Essential Services" in derationed areas.

2. Fair Price Shops.

(a) Location:- In regard to the selection of areas or centres for the opening of fair price shops the Collectors should follow the following order of priority:-

1. Major Panchayat areas including taluk and sub-taluk headquarters.

2. Minor panchayat areas.

3. Big non-panchayat villages with a fairly appreciable non-producer population like fishermen, weavers, etc

In regard to item (3) above it is not possible to prescribe any hard and fast rules. But Collectors should use their discretion properly having in mind on the one hand the need to prevent misery and starvation and on the other the need for conservation of stocks. They should keep a careful watch over the situation, particularly in areas where the monsoon has failed. If for special reasons, the Collector feels, that any other area which does not fall under the three categories mentioned above is, in need of fair price shops, he should immediately report the fact to the Board and get its prior approval for the opening fair price shops in that area. However in the districts of Ramanathapuram, North Arcot and Chitoor where the failure of the monsoon has been marked, the Collectors may open fair price shops in other areas on their own authority and report the fact to the Board immediately.

__e and composition of ration:- In view of the ...rt rice position and the need for conserving rice stocks, it is not possible to accept the suggestion of the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) to issue rice also through fair price shops at the rate of 2 ozs. The Government therefore direct that fair price shops in deficit districts should distribute wheat and millets only at the rate of 6 ozs per adult per day as originally ordered in the G.O. cited.

If for special reasons the Board considers it necessary to relax this principle in particular areas on or some occasions, it should obtain the orders of the Government in the matter.

3. Grain shops in Industrial Areas.

(a) Definition of industrial areas:- In G.O.Ms.No.126, Food and Agriculture, dated 24.1.51, the Government have ordered that Collectors should arrange to open grainshops in industrial areas for distribution of foodgrains to the industrial labour. The question has been raised as to what areas should be considered as industrial areas for the ~~xxx~~ purpose of this Order. The Government now direct that Textile Mills, Cement and other factories employing one hundred or more persons and situated in close and compact areas, Government and private plantations, and Project areas such as Bhavanisagar etc., should be treated as industrial areas for the purpose of the above order.

(b) Scale and composition of ration:- ~~Hx~~ In the G.O. cited it has been ordered that the grainshops should distribute foodgrains to the labourers at the scale and composition applicable to rationed areas. As the industrial labour will have the advantage of being able to buy foodgrains from two sources, viz, (1) the grainshop and (2) the open market, the Government have decided to do away with the classification "Heavy manual labourers" in derationed areas. The industrial labourers in derationed areas should not be given the supplementary ration of 4 ozs allowed to heavy manual labourers in rationed areas.

(c) Non-producers other than industrial labour in Industrial centres:- In industrial areas the bulk of the non-producers will be attached to industries and will get their supplies from grainshops. The few that are not attached to industries will have to find food for themselves If, however, there are large number of such persons not attached to grainshops, the Collectors may open fair price shops for the distribution of foodgrains among them at the scale and composition applicable to such shops.

4. Essential Services.

(a) Scale and composition of ration:- The Government have decided that in derationed areas "Essential Services" as defined in G.O.Ms.No.524, Food dated 9.6.48, and not covered by grainshops, should also be supplied with foodgrains at the scale and composition applicable to rationed areas. But as in ~~the~~ the ~~case~~ case of industrial labour, the supplementary ration of 4 ozs should not be allowed to the heavy manual labourers in the "Essential Services" in the derationed areas.

(b) Source of supply:- The Board has suggested that the foodgrains required ~~by~~ for supply to "Essential Services" will be met from stocks requisitioned from bigger ryots. The Government consider that in derationed areas requisitioning should be avoided except to prevent hoarding and blackmarketting or to tide over a crises. The Collectors should not therefore resort to requisitioning to meet the needs of "Essential Services". But they may arrange for voluntary surrenders of foodgrains from big ryots for the purpose. If the

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quantity obtained by voluntary surrenders is not sufficient to meet the demands of the Essential Services the requirement should be met from the quota allotted to the district.

5. Rice - Allocation between rationed areas and industrial areas and rural parts:- It has been ordered by the Government that 60% of the quota imported from surplus districts should be made available to meet the requirements of rationed areas and industrial areas and that the balance of 40% should be moved to rural areas for distribution through licensed dealers at the controlled price. At the Collectors' conference held on the 16th January 1951, the Collectors are reported to have expressed their inability to stick to this allocation. The Government have therefore re-examined the question with reference to the stock and supply position of rice, and direct that 80% of the quantity imported by quota holders should be made available to meet the requirements of rationed areas, industrial areas, Essential services, hostels, orphanages, etc., and that the balance of 20% should be allowed to be moved to rural parts by the quota holders themselves, to be sold by them in the open market at the controlled price, subject to the condition that the requirements of rationed areas and industrial areas should be met first, the requirements of hostels, orphanages etc., and Essential Services next, and the balance if any should be distributed in rural areas through licensed dealers.

The Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) is requested to issue necessary instructions to Collectors on the above lines and to send 5 copies thereof to Government.

(BY ORDER OF THE ETC.)

(SD.) x x x,
Secretary to Government.

To The Board of Revenue
Copy to A.C. and B. Sections.

/True copy/

R. Nagarajan 21-1086

Superintendent,
Madras Record Office, Madras.

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